GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2276
ANSWERED ON:14.08.2006
WORKERS IN CONSTRUCTION SECTOR
Oram Shri Jual

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has made any survey to assess the total number of workers engaged in construction sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) whether any step is being taken to save these workers from exploitation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR & EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU)

(a)&(b): The approximate number of construction workers in the country, State-wise, as per the 2001 Census, is annexed.
(c)&(d): The Government has enacted the Building & Other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1996 and Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Cess Act, 1996. A cess of 1% is levied on every construction project costing more than Rs.10 lakh and employing ten or more workers. The Cess thus collected forms the corpus of the welfare Fund, which is used for welfare measures for workers viz. medical and health care, immediate assistance to the beneficiary in case of accident, pension benefits, premium for Group Insurance Scheme, loans and advances for construction of house, assistance for education of children, medical expenses and maternity benefit to female beneficiaries. The cess is collected by the respective State Government.

These Acts also contain elaborate rules and provisions for safety and health of construction workers.